

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application as amended to this point:

1. **(Currently Amended)** Apparatus for injecting ozone into a tank of water, said apparatus comprising in combination:
 - a) a filter for filtering the water drawn from said tank;
 - b) a venturi for entraining ozone in the filtered water flowing to the tank;
 - c) a circulation pump for drawing water through said filter and returning the water to said tank through said venturi to entrain ozone in the returning water;
 - d) an ozone generator for generating the ozone;
 - e) a conduit interconnecting said ozone generator with said venturi to convey ozone to said venturi from said ozone generator, said conduit accommodating a flow of ozone from said ozone generator venturi to said venturi ozone generator;
 - f) a suction line adapted to provide a flow of air to said ozone generator; and
 - g) a check valve disposed in said suction line upstream of said ozone generator to prevent an outflow of gas from said ozone generator through said suction line and to prevent oxidation of said check valve by the ozone.

2. **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said venturi includes an inlet in fluid communication with said conduit.

3. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 1 including a valve disposed in said suction line for metering the flow of air into said ozone generator.

4. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 3 wherein said valve is upstream of said check valve to prevent oxidation of said valve by the ozone.

5. **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 1 including a filter for filtering the air flowing into said ozone generator.

6. **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 5 wherein said filter is upstream of said check valve.

7. **(Currently Amended)** A method for injecting ozone into a tank of water, said method comprising the steps of:

- a) filtering the water from the tank with a filter;
- b) drawing the water through the filter and discharging the water into the tank through a device for entraining the ozone;

c) generating ozone with an ozone generator; [[and]]
d) conveying the ozone to the entraining device;
~~d) accommodating a flow of ozone from the entraining device to the
ozone generator;~~
e) entraining the ozone conveyed in the water flowing into the tank;
f) further drawing air into the ozone generator through a suction line;
and
g) ~~precluding outflow preventing oxidation of a check valve
controlling flow of air through the suction line by having the check valve in the
suction line upstream of the ozone generator. of air and ozone from the ozone
generator through the suction line from the ozone generator.~~

8. **(Currently Amended)** The method as set forth in Claim 7 including the step of controlling the rate of flow of air through the suction line into the ozone generator.

9. **(Currently Amended)** The method as set forth in Claim 7 including the step of filtering the flow of air into the suction line and to the ozone generator.

10. **(Currently Amended)** The method as set forth in Claim 8 including the step of filtering the flow of air into the suction line and to the ozone generator.

11. **(Currently Amended)** A method for preventing a flow of ozone through a check valve ~~water from a tank to an ozone generator having in~~ a suction line for inflow of air to an ozone generator, which ozone generator is ~~[[and]]~~ adapted to provide ozone for entrainment in water flowing into a ~~a~~ [[the]] tank, said method comprising the steps of:

a) conveying ozone through a conduit from the ozone generator to a venturi;

b) ~~accommodating a flow of ozone through the conduit from the venturi to the ozone generator;~~

b) [[c)]] entraining ozone from the conduit into [[in]] the water flowing from a source of water through the venturi and into [[to]] the tank; and

c) [[d)]] preventing oxidation by the ozone of a check valve limiting the direction of flow through the suction line and the conduit by having the check valve in the suction line upstream of the ozone generator. ~~a reverse flow of air and ozone from the ozone generator through the suction line with a check valve disposed in the suction line.~~

12. **(Currently Amended)** The method as set forth in Claim 11 including the step of controlling the rate of air flow into the suction line and the ozone generator.

13. **(Currently Amended)** The method as set forth in Claim 11 including

the step of filtering the air flow into the suction line and to the ozone generator.

14. **(Currently Amended)** The method as set forth in Claim 12 including the step of filtering the air flow into the suction line and to the ozone generator.

15. **(Currently Amended)** Apparatus for preventing a flow of water ~~from a tank~~ to an ozone generator adapted to provide ozone for entrainment in water flowing into a ~~[[the]]~~ tank, said apparatus comprising in combination:

a) said ozone generator;

b) a device for entraining the ozone generated by ~~[[from]]~~ said ozone generator in the water flowing from a source into the tank;

c) a conduit for conveying ozone from said ozone generator to said device~~[[,]]~~ ~~said conduit accommodating a flow of ozone from said venturi to said ozone generator;~~

d) a suction line for providing air to said ozone generator; and

e) a check valve disposed in said suction line upstream from said ozone generator for preventing a flow of ozone to said check valve and oxidation of said check valve by the ozone and for establishing a pressurized environment in said conduit to prevent a flow of water therein to said ozone generator.

16. **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 15 including a valve for regulating the rate of flow of air into said suction line.

17. **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 15 including a filter for filtering the air flowing into said suction line.

18. **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 16 including a filter for filtering the air flowing into said suction line.

19. **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 15 wherein said device is a venturi.

20. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 15 [[19]] wherein said conduit includes a loop disposed above the level of the water in the tank.